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SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
BOARD OF MANAGERS
OF THE
MAGDALEN SOCIETY,

AN INSTITUTION FOR THE SHELTER AND REFORMATION OF FALLEN WOMEN:
N. E. COR. TWENTY-FIRST AND RACE STREETS.



FOUNDED 1801.

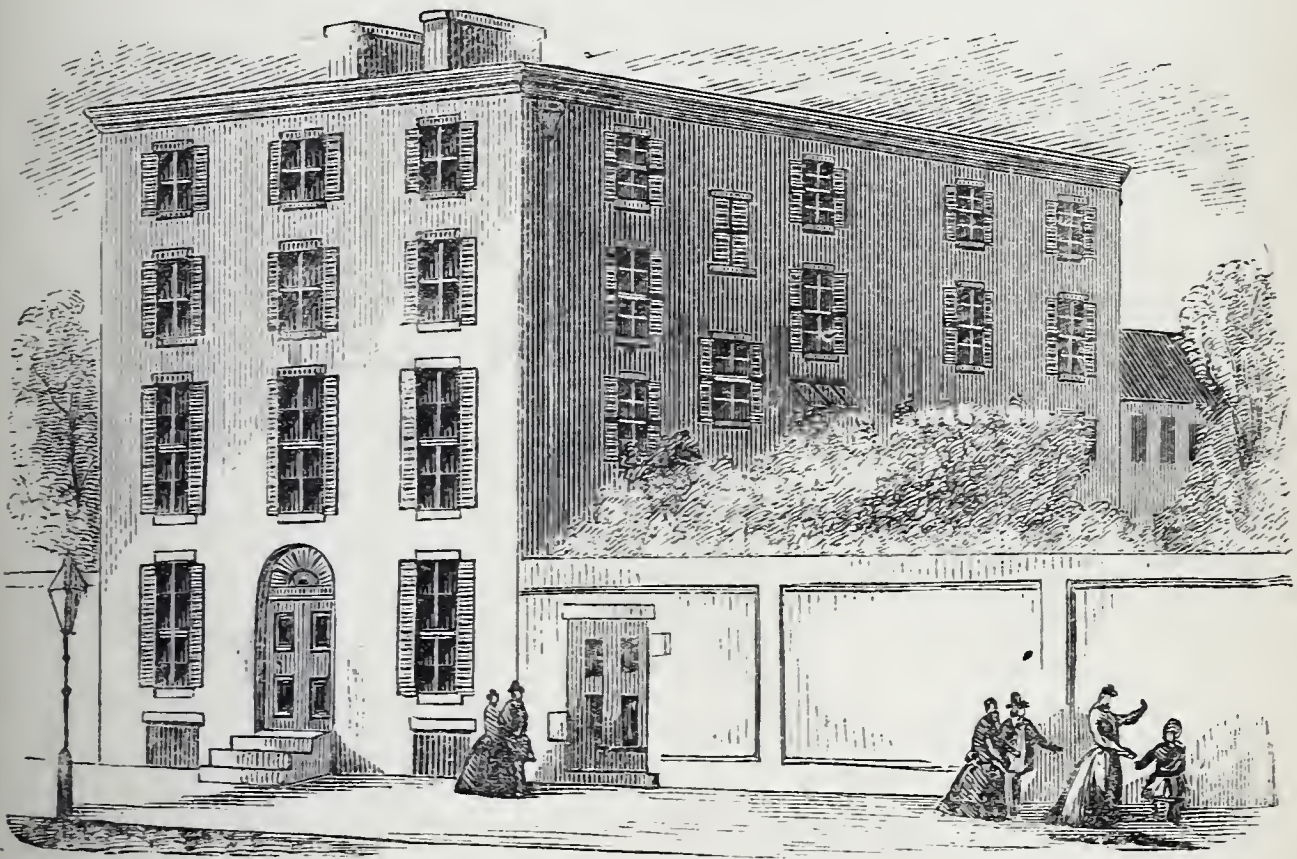
To the city the seducer lures his victim. To the city women come to hide their shame. The city is the great receiver of the fallen who cannot endure to remain in the smaller towns known to everybody. Therefore the whole country is responsible for the lost in the city; and every effort to reclaim them should be supported by all Christians. Daily, numbers die; daily, numbers supply their places; and must those who might be rescued, be left unsaved for the want of means to effect it?

PHILADELPHIA:

1874.

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JAS. B. CHANDLER'S STEAM PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT,
306 & 308 Chestnut Street.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

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VICE-PRESIDENT,

WILLIAM BIDDLE.

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JOHN W. BIDDLE.

Franklin Institute, 15 South Seventh Street.

MANAGERS,

WILLIAM BIDDLE, Mine Hill R. R. Co., Franklin Institute, No. 15
South Seventh Street.

WILLIAM PURVES, No. 1812 Pine Street.

HENRY D. SHERRERD, No. 1936 Spruce Street.

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COLSON HIESKELL, No. 1122 Arch Street.

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RICHARD CADBURY, No. 1727 Filbert Street.


S. WEIR LEWIS, No. 1930 Spruce Street.

PHYSICIANS,

JAMES J. LEVICK, M. D.

A. M. SLOCUM, M. D.

Matron, ANN McDONALD.



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SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MAGDALEN SOCIETY.

IT is with mingled feelings that the Managers submit their SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT to the contributors of the MAGDALEN SOCIETY. Rejoiced that they have been able to afford a comfortable Asylum and useful instruction during another twelve-month to an increased number of inmates, they are yet called upon to mourn the death of another of the most respected of their fellow Managers—the oldest in membership as well as in years, and for the last eight years the honored President of the Society, the venerable AMBROSE WHITE. MORDECAI L. DAWSON and AMBROSE WHITE, two names familiar as household words to the ears of all connected with the institution, after having labored for more than a generation together, have been called away from these scenes almost within a year of each other. In the month of December last, at the advanced age of ninety-three years and four months, died our venerable friend and President, nearly one half of whose protracted days were passed as a member of this Society. Until within a year past, when prevented

by the growing infirmities of age, from continuing his labors, he was regular in his attendance upon his stated duties here, and he always showed a deep interest in the religious progress and general welfare of the unfortunate Magdalens. AMBROSE WHITE was the fifth President of the MAGDALEN SOCIETY ; the first being WILLIAM WHITE, Episcopal Bishop of Pennsylvania ; succeeded by BISHOP H. W. ONDERDONK, ALEXANDER HENRY and BISHOP ALONZO POTTER ; all but one of whom remained in the position to the close of their lives. The death of our late President and friend, at so advanced an age, should remind us all that, however protracted the life of a man may be, death comes at last to each and all of us, and that he who reads and he who hears is alike admonished by the warning voice : “be YE *also* ready, for in such an hour as ye think “not the Son of Man cometh.” Day succeeds day and night followeth night without our notice. Even the years go by unheeded ; but each year and day and night but dims the lustre of the age, increases the feebleness of the step, and brings us so much nearer to the tomb. Our Annual Meetings come and go, and at each, some one of our number has disappeared and another has taken his place. When our Saviour was asked “which was the first “commandment,” He replied, “Thou shalt love the “Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy strength “and with all thy mind,” adding “And the second is like “unto it,” “Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.” “On these two commandments,” said He, “hang all the “Law and the Prophets.” Are we, individually, doing

all that we might for the glory of God and the good of our fellow men—whom we are commanded to love as ourselves? In view of the frequent admonitions of death in our midst let us henceforward *prove* our love to God by renewing our efforts in the cause of His suffering creatures, encouraged by the promise that in “doing good unto one of the least “of them we do it unto Him.”

On the twenty-fifth day of June, also died SARAH * * * * * an inmate of the Institution. She was without friends to take charge of her remains, and was buried in the Asylum grounds, where many others lie interred until the last day, when the trump of the archangel shall summon the humble and the great together to appear in the final judgment.

We have again to record the faithful and valuable services of the Matron, MISS ANN McDONALD, who has occupied her present position now for thirty-nine years, and who has performed the various important duties which have devolved upon her with unremitting fidelity, not only in reference to the temporal comfort of those committed to her care, but in attention to their spiritual wants, by her conversation and example as well as by her prayers, leading them to look to Jesus for consolation in trial and for forgiveness of their past offences. She has been well and faithfully assisted by MISS MARTHA McDONALD, and by the MISSES MARY and SUSAN LEVAN. MRS. ANN JANE GARRETT has had charge of the educational department now for twenty years, and to her instruction many of the past and present inmates are indebted for considerable progress in rudimental knowledge. ALEXANDER CRAIG, though

advanced in years, has had general charge of the garden and grounds, and is the only male person employed upon the premises. The reverends MESSRS. HEBERTON and BOWERS are entitled to the thanks of the Society for their faithful services in preaching the gospel to the Magdalens, and in catechising and instructing them in spiritual things. Thanks are also due to DOCTORS LEVICK and SLOCUM for faithful attendance upon the sick, they having had entire charge of the health of the family during the year. Also to JOHN W. BIDDLE, Treasurer, whose duties as Manager of the business of the Society, and as custodian of the securities, are not only arduous and delicate, but very responsible.

The following report of the Matron shows the number of admissions and departures during the year, with the number remaining in the household February 4, *to wit* :

Number of inmates at last report,	27
Admitted since,	29
	—
Whole number in and admitted,	56
Left the Asylum at their own request,	5
Gone to service,	9
Died,	1
Returned to friends,	6
Sent to the Hospital,	2
Discharged for improper conduct,	0
	—
Leaving in the family,	33
Number of probationers,	1
	—
Total number in the family,	34

In remarking upon the character of our general work, we will refrain at this time from enlarging upon the causes which lead to the downfall of women. The numerous works which have been written on the subject, to say nothing of our own reports, would seem to have exhausted the subject, without arriving at the wished for results. Speculations on the causes of the evil do not reach the evil. We all know that exposure to temptation, love of finery, and low company, as well as the designs of the seducer, bring young women into situations which finally deprive them of their virtue, and lead them to destruction ; and, as no co-operative efforts have thus far been able to find a preventive to the growth of an evil which results from so many other evils, and which has its origin in the follies and passions of youth ; we must fall back upon the alternative, and endeavor to reform the minds, while giving relief to the bodies of the poor victims of man's duplicity and of their own folly.

But can we say nothing towards stopping the tremendous torrent of ruin which is sweeping so many thoughtless young women to destruction ? Can we do nothing to arrest it ? If we say to parents give your daughters a good home education, we will find that it is principally those girls who have no homes. or worse than none, who fall ! If we say to the young women go not upon the streets, many of them will reply "*we cannot starve.*" Or, we may find that our warnings are unheeded because they too often fall on the ears of the thoughtless or the vicious. These care not for homilies while free to follow their

youthful desires. Our endeavors must be, then, to bring as many as we can under the influence of religion ; to provide homes for them where they will have good examples set them, and receive proper instruction in virtue and morality. The example of virtue thus impressed into the mind, is more powerful to reform than are many sermons preached into heedless or unwilling ears.

And here we would stop to invite repentant Magdalens to seek an asylum within our doors. Especially do we invite those who have but recently taken to evil ways, and are not yet confirmed in sin. We invite the parents and friends of such young women as may have strayed from their guardianship, or are in danger of straying, to bring them to our Home, where they will receive good instruction and be out of the way of temptation. *We have room and to spare.* Religious services are held almost daily in the institution, conducted by clergymen or by Managers. Common school instruction is also enforced by competent teachers ; and many who come into the Asylum unable to read or write, go away fully instructed in those branches. Needlework, and the art of housekeeping are also taught by turns, and the inmates are thereby made competent not only to earn an honest livelihood for themselves, but to become good sisters, wives, and mothers.

In closing their report, the Managers cannot omit to call the attention of contributors to the increasing demand which must fall upon the Society from the growth of population, and the increase of luxury in our city ; and the necessity which must sooner or later arise for the enlargement

of their work in the future. That they may not be compelled to rely upon transient and uncertain collections, from year to year, and that the poor Magdalen may have a certain dependence, at all times, it is their desire to secure for the Society a larger

PERMANENT FUND,

towards which they would respectfully invite donations and legacies. The ordinary income from general collections, even were they sufficient, ought not to be diverted from the proper uses of the household, to educate and support the inmates. The reader will pardon a few reflections at this point, addressed to persons who, in the act of making their last Will, would remember the fallen woman. There is a period in the lives of most persons when they are disposed to take a retrospect of their past actions, considering for what purposes they have lived and to what they tend; and, looking forward to the things beyond this life, would ask themselves how they may be useful to their fellow creatures when they shall be no longer present with them. If such a period does not occur during the busier scenes of an active life, it is sure to present itself at that solemn hour when the messenger of death stands at the threshold, and we realize the solemn fact that we are about to appear before the bar of the Judge of all the earth. At such a period no rest or peace can be found to the soul from the remembrance of anything of a purely selfish nature,

such as the accumulation or the possession of wealth, or the attainment of honors or fame ; nor will the memory of past pleasures, however pure, afford any gratification at that hour. The mind will rest only on the sacrifices and self denials we have made for the benefit of our fellow creatures and for the honor of our Lord and Saviour. In the contemplation of such a theme may not the managers of an important trust in the interests of humanity be allowed to suggest to the charitable that a blessing, as well as a peaceful pleasure, may be afforded to such as may have more abundant means than are required for the well being of their families, to make such provisions as their judgment may approve for the benefit of the poor Magdalen? In the very act of making such a provision there will be a blessing that will be followed by a continuous peace of mind. Many who may not themselves be able to bequeath anything for such a purpose—conveyancers of estates, attorneys and counsellors at law, and others—may be placed in such situations that they may lead their clients or friends to the good work, thus entailing upon themselves a blessing scarcely less grateful than that of the testator himself.

A legacy of two thousand dollars to the Magdalen Society constitutes a perpetual fund for the support of one inmate.

A subscription of one hundred and fifty dollars will support one inmate for twelve months.

The sum of twenty dollars subscribed at one time constitutes a Life Membership.

Legacies and Donations are respectfully solicited, and all moneys should be sent to the Treasurer, JOHN W. BIDDLE, No. 15 South Seventh street.

Signed by order of the Board,

ARTHUR G. COFFIN,
Vice-President.

Attest:

THOMAS A. ROBINSON,
Secretary.

CAUTION TO TESTATORS.

It may be well for Testators to bear in mind that DELAY in incorporating charitable bequests into their Wills may defeat their intentions, as all such bequests ARE VOID if made within thirty days of the Testator's death.

LIFE CONTRIBUTORS.

Acker, James M.
Ash, Joshua W., M. D.,
Ashhurst, John
Ashhurst, Lewis R.
Atwood, John M.

Brown, David S.
Brown, Moses
Brown, Lewis T.
Brown, Mary D.
Bunting, C. W.

Backus, E. F.
Baldwin, Stephen
Bartol, B. H.
Beitler, Joseph
Benson, Gustavus S.
Benson, Harriet S.
Bettle, Samuel, jr.
Biddle, Edward C.
Biddle, Samuel
Biddle, John
Biddle, Wm.
Biddle, John W.
Blight, Atherton
Bond, L. Montgomery
Borie, Adolph E.
Borie, C. & H.
Boswell, James J.
Bowen & Fox.

Carter, John E.
Charnley, Wm. S.
Childs, Geo. W.
Clark, C. H.
Clark, E. W.
Coates, Benj.
Coates, Sarah
Coates, Sidney
Coffin & Altemus.
Coffin, Arthur G.
Collins, Frederick
Coles, Mary
Cooke, Jay
Cooper, Joseph P.
Cope, Caleb
Cope, R. Anna
Cope, Francis R.
Crammond, Henry

Derbyshire, Alexander J.	Klett, Frederick
Drexel, A. J.	Knorr, Frederick E.
Ellis, Charles	Lake, Anna
Elwyn, A. L., D.D.	Larned, Wm. H.
Farnum, Elizabeth H.	Lea, Thomas T.
Farr, John C.	Leaming, J. Fisher
Gaillard, James	Lejee, Wm. R.
Gibbons, Charles	Levick, James J., M. D.
Gibson's Sons, John	Lewis, Jno. T.
Goddard, Kingston	Lewis, Edwin M.
Griffits, Wm. F.	Lewis, S. Weir
Guillou, René	Lippincott, Aaron S.
Hansell, Wm. F.	Livezey, John
Harrison, Jos., jr.	Longstreth, Mary Anna
Harris, Joseph C.	Longstreth, Susan
Hartshorne, Henry, M. D.	Longstreth, Wm. W.
Hieskell, Colson	Lovering, Joseph S.
Helmuth, Henry	Mann, John E.
Hockley, John F.	Mason, Samuel
Hollis, Peter C.	Mason, Jas. S.
Hoopes, Barton	M'Alister, John
Houston, Mary B.	M'Donald, Ann
Jamison, B. K.	M'Kean, H. Pratt
	Midnight, J. T.
	Miller, Andrew
	Mitchell, Elijah
	Morris, Frederick W.

-
- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Morris, Naomi | Spencer, Charles |
| Morton, Henry J., D. D. | Starr, Isaac |
| Myers, Nathan | Stevenson, Geo. E. |
| | Stoddart, Curwen |
| Pardee, A. & Co. | Sturgis, Robert |
| Parrish, Dillwyn | |
| Peace, Edward, M. D. | Taber, George |
| Perkins, Abraham R. | Thompson, E. O. |
| Perkins, Henry | Throckmorton, Jos. W. |
| Peterson, Thomas K. | Tredick, Benj. T. |
| Potts, Wm. F. | Tucker, John |
| Powers, Thomas H. | |
| Purves, William | Vail, Hugh D. |
| | Vaux, George |
| Randolph, Julianna | Vaux, W. S. |
| Reeves, Lewis | |
| Ridgway, Thomas | Warrington, Joseph, M. D. |
| Roberts, Solomon W. | Welsh, John |
| Robinson, Thomas A. | Whelen, E. S. |
| | White, Rebecca |
| Savage, Sarah Chauncey | Whitall, John M. |
| Scott, Thomas A. | Williams, Henry J. |
| Scull, David | Williams, Mary B. H. |
| Sharpless, John M. | Wistar, John, jr. |
| Sherrerd, Henry D. | Wistar, Dr. T. |
| Shipley, Samuel R. | Wood, George B., M. D. |
| Smith, Walter | Wood, Horatio C. |
| Smith, Geo. Washington | Wood, Richard |

Form of a Bequest of Personal Property.

I GIVE and bequeath to the Magdalen Society of Philadelphia and their successors, the sum of dollars, towards promoting the objects of said Society.



FORM OF A BEQUEST OF REAL ESTATE.

I GIVE and devise to the Magdalen Society of Philadelphia, or their successors, all that (☞ Here describe the property), together with the appurtenances, to hold to the said MAGDALEN SOCIETY OF PHILADELPHIA, and their successors forever for them, to dispose of and convey in any manner which will promote the objects of said Society.

A contribution of TWENTY DOLLARS constitutes a Life Membership.

DONATIONS WILL BE THANKFULLY RECEIVED BY ANY OF
THE MANAGERS OR THE TREASURER.